



NEWS RELEASE

Pueblo Chemical Depot



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

June 14, 2010

U. S. Army Pueblo Chemical Depot
45825 Highway 96 East
Pueblo, Colorado

For More Information Contact:
PCD Public Affairs Office
Chuck Sprague (719)549-4135
Cell (719) 569-1089
charles.sprague@us.army.mil

Vapor leaking over-packs found, re-sealed; back in storage

PUEBLO CHEMICAL DEPOT, Colo.— Chemical crews closed out a mustard leaker operation today that began more than two weeks ago when monitoring crews were alerted to trace readings of mustard agent vapors inside a storage structure containing over-packed leaking munitions at Pueblo Chemical Depot.

The low-level readings were detected the last week in May as crews were preparing for an inspection of the depot's over-packed munitions.

An air filtration unit was previously installed on the rear air vent of the storage structure and was in continuous operation during the process.

Chemical crews dressed in personal protective equipment began a systematic operation to isolate individual pallets of over-packed containers holding munitions that had previously leaked or were involved in past sampling operations.

On June 8, three over-packed munitions were determined to be leaking mustard agent vapor. Chemical crews transferred the over-packed munitions into larger 12" X 56" sealed, single round containers.

County and state officials were given updates on the operation from the start to today's completion of operations.

All processes were carried out under strict engineering controls, protecting the environment and safety of all depot employees and surrounding communities.

-30-

The U.S. Army Chemical Materials Agency (CMA) with headquarters at Aberdeen Proving Ground, Md., stores the nation's aging chemical weapons and develops programs aimed at effectively treating and ultimately eliminating chemical warfare materiel. For more information about CMA and its programs, visit www.cma.army.mil.